



New State Veterinarian Appointed

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MADISON- Dr. Paul McGraw has been appointed State Veterinarian and Administrator for the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection's (DATCP) Animal Health division.

DATCP Secretary Ben Brancel made the announcement today saying, "Dr. McGraw has served the people of Wisconsin well as Assistant State Veterinarian for the past nine years and I look forward to his leadership in the years ahead. He's very familiar with our animal health rules and regulations and he has already established good working relationships with partners, stakeholders and counterparts in other agencies."

In addition to his role as Assistant State Veterinarian, Dr. McGraw also served as Bureau Director of Animal Disease Control within the Animal Health division.

"I am honored by this appointment and humbled to be following in the footsteps of Dr. Bob Ehlenfeldt who did a great job in this role for 27 years," said Dr. McGraw. "We have a great team in the Animal Health division and we will keep working to protect the health of the state's \$34-billion livestock industry."

Dr. McGraw has always worked with animals and agriculture starting with his days growing up on a dairy and swine farm in Dodgeville, Wisconsin. After completing undergraduate studies at University of Wisconsin-River Falls and his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree at the Wisconsin School of Veterinary Medicine, UW-Madison, Dr. McGraw worked in private veterinary practice for sixteen years before coming to DATCP as Assistant State Veterinarian in 2004.

During his time at DATCP, Dr. McGraw has served as Program Manager for the state's Livestock Premises Registration program and the state's Animal Dealers, Animal Truckers and Animal Markets programs. He is the USDA's Designated Brucellosis Epidemiologist for the State of Wisconsin and an Adjunct Assistant Professor at the School of Veterinary Medicine at UW-Madison. He's also a past President of the Wisconsin Veterinary Medical Association (WVMA) and past Chairman of the WVMA's Public Health and Food Safety Committee.

The State Veterinarian is Wisconsin's chief of regulatory veterinary medicine. He oversees surveillance, prevention and response to diseases in the state's multi-billion animal agriculture sector. As administrator of the Division of Animal Health, his oversight also includes the local humane officer training program, rabies epidemiology, and the dog sellers' licensing program. The Division works closely with the U.S. Department of Agriculture Veterinary Services and Wildlife Services and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, as well as other state and federal agencies, private practice veterinarians, and local law enforcement.

Dr. McGraw and his wife Heidi have two daughters Kelly and Maggie.

Dr. McGraw will begin his new duties April 22.

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